

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE AIRPORT COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Airport Commission convened in a regular session on Thursday, October 13, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Annex meeting room at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Dingman, Fitch, Glass, Hsiao, Jacobsen, and Chairperson Donnellan.

Absent: Commissioner Orpe.

Also Present: Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian.

MOTION: Commissioner Fitch moved to grant Commissioner Orpe an excused absence for the October 13, 2011 Airport Commission meeting. Commissioner Hsiao seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

3. FLAG SALUTE

Commissioner Dingman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. AFFIDAVIT OF AGENDA POSTING

MOTION: Commissioner Fitch, seconded by Commissioner Glass, moved to accept and file the report of the City Clerk on the posting of the agenda for this meeting; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5A. MINUTES OF AUGUST 11, 2011

Commissioner Fitch offered the following correction to the August 11, 2011 minutes: Page 2, 8D, paragraph 4: "...but they would begin analysis in 120 days from August 11, 2011."

Chairperson Donnellan offered the following correction to the minutes: Page 1, 8A, "Chairperson Donnellan noted that the following reports for August 2011..."

MOTION: Commissioner Jacobsen moved to approve the August 11, 2011 Airport Commission meeting minutes as amended. Commissioner Fitch seconded the motion; a voice vote reflected unanimous approval (absent Commissioner Orpe; Commissioner Dingman abstaining).

6. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #1 AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

6A. Commissioner Fitch announced a "Seniors Don't Be Scammed" presentation by Torrance Police Department on November 15, 2011.

7. ACTION ITEMS

None.

8. INFORMATION ITEMS

8A. AERONAUTICAL OPERATIONAL INFORMATION UNDER THE PURVIEW OF THE GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Chairperson Donnellan noted that the following reports for October 2011 were included in agenda materials: Hangar and Tiedown Rental Status, Ongoing Projects, September and October Meeting Room Schedule, Hangar Waiting List, August and September Events Requiring Emergency Response, and Airfield Operations Status.

Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian reported that one of the two hangar vacancies in Hangar and Tiedown Information has been leased. Referring to Ongoing Projects, he discussed the August 17 job walk and September 15 bid opening for the Hangar Roofing Project. He stated that award of contract to A-1 All American Roofing is scheduled for City Council on October 18, 2011 at a total estimated cost of \$60,000.

Responding to Commissioner Dingman's inquiry, he stated that the 20 hangars to be coated are in Rows 2743 and 2747 A through J.

Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian advised that he would be bringing forward an information item regarding the Airport Security Project. He stated that the project is being scaled back and a consultant is updating the plans. He noted that there would be automated entry systems in some areas as well as lighting and cameras; however, it has been determined that it is not necessary to automate every gate.

Commissioner Glass inquired about Changes to Hangar Waiting List, and he explained that recently new applicants have been able to receive hangars immediately, especially those waiting for Small Type A hangars that have narrower doors.

Referring to Report 5, Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian noted three incidents in August and two in September, clarifying that foreign objects on the runway did not cause the flat tires. He noted that Airfield Operations in Report 6 continue to be higher than last year.

Richard Root, Via Buena Ventura, stated that Airport Operation Totals on the FAA website are consistently 600 to 1,000 operations higher than what the City reports.

Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian advised that the City gets its information directly from the FAA tower and, at Chairperson Donnellan's request, offered to look into the discrepancy.

8B. LAND MANAGEMENT REPORT - AERONAUTICAL

Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian reported that Western Museum of Flight is completing Phase I of their lease improvements that includes drainage, paving, signage, and fencing. He stated that there are no cameras slated to be installed but that there will be cameras in the East T area.

In response to Commissioner Fitch's inquiry, he stated that Western Museum of Flight's extension expired on September 23, 2011 but that they are showing good faith.

He advised that the FAA Tower will be undergoing a complete interior renovation and, in the meantime, they will be installing a 29-foot mobile tower that will sit on top of

four storage containers. He noted that it is a 60-week project but that they hope it will only take eight months. He stated that delivery of the mobile tower is scheduled for early November 2011, with changeover expected in March 2012.

Responding to Commissioner Glass' inquiry, he stated that the project is all Federal government cost except for some City lighting panels that have to be moved.

8C. NOISE ABATEMENT QUARTERLY REPORT

Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian noted that a Noise Abatement Report for July, August, and September 2011 was included in agenda materials.

Commissioner Fitch commended Hilda Colclasure for a job well done and Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian stated that Nora Duncan should also be recognized.

At Chairperson Donnellan's request, Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian explained that violators receive a letter except for "unknowns." He noted that repeat offenders receiving three letters in a row can potentially go in front of a Hearing Board.

Commissioner Glass stated that 10 or 15 years ago it was possible to see the names of persons who complain about Airport noise on a website and Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian responded that he does not believe that information is being logged anymore.

Mr. Root also commended Hilda Colclasure. He shared information about Santa Monica Airport's noise abatement program, noting that second violations are a \$2,000 fine, third violations \$5,000, fourth violations \$10,000, and fifth are banned from the Airport. He offered to make their month reports available.

Commissioner Dingman stated that Santa Monica Airport is going to have less traffic because they are charging a landing fee.

Mr. Root, on behalf of Riviera Homeowners Association, discussed concern about aircraft that take off straight out and make early left turns, taking them off course and violating standard noise abatement take off procedure. He stated that this occurred at least 100 times in 2010. He requested that these violations also be included in the Noise Abatement Reports.

Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian stated that he believes that letters are sent to verified violators but that he would pass on the request.

9. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS #2

9A. Commissioner Jacobsen paid tribute to those who died at the Reno Air Race.

9B. Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian distributed an October 8, 2011 Daily Breeze.com article "Long Beach airspace limits scaled back." He noted that the proposal has been scaled back considerably and announced workshops in Long Beach on October 25-26, 2011, with the public comment period ending December 12, 2011. He advised that the revised proposal would have minimal impact on Torrance but that Torrance pilots do not want to see any changes at all.

Commissioner Dingman stated that pilots are unhappy because the new plan does not follow visual landmarks that make it easier for pilots to navigate and also because the proposal has been driven by Jet Blue that claims it has conflicts with light aircraft. At Commissioner Glass' request, he explained Class A, B, C, D airspace, adding that there is currently only Class D in Long Beach.

9C. Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian discussed the September 15, 2011 Helicopter Committee meeting. He stated that the Committee is waiting for the FAA to submit its aeronautical analysis before it meets again although there are still a number of issues that have not been addressed. He stated that Robinson Helicopter is not comfortable with some of the altitudes now and that a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson have not been selected yet.

In response to Commissioner Fitch's inquiry, he stated that topics that still need to be discussed include offshore helicopter routes, helicopter training patterns, and a noise monitoring system for helicopters.

When Commissioner Fitch raised the possibility of the Commission addressing the noise monitoring system for helicopters instead of the Helicopter Committee, Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian stated that a noise monitoring system is not related to the Letter of Agreement and questioned whether the Helicopter Committee should be looking into it. He offered to bring forward an item for discussion.

Commissioner Jacobsen stated that the Commission taking action seems pre-emptive, that the current Noise Abatement Report already covers helicopter violations, and that there is no point without the FAA's decision about the Letter of Agreement.

Commissioner Glass stated that there were complaints about noise away from the Airport at Helicopter Committee meetings, noting that the monitors do not pick it up.

Mr. Root stated that there were complaints about helicopters flying too low, flying off course, and the lack of a mechanism to investigate or enforce violations. He noted that it did not make a difference who looks into a noise abatement system for helicopters because the FAA would not be involved.

Facility Operations Manager Megerdichian stated that Torrance-based helicopter pilots and Tower staff are well aware of what altitudes the City would like to see.

10. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: At 8:20 p.m., Commissioner Dingman moved to adjourn the meeting to Thursday, November 10, 2011 in the West Annex meeting room at 7:00 p.m. Commissioner Hsiao seconded the motion and, hearing no objection, Chairperson Donnellan so ordered.

Approved as Submitted November 10, 2011 s/ Sue Herbers, City Clerk
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